

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-3. (Previously canceled)

4. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence or the complement of said nucleotide sequence ~~a complementary nucleotide sequence~~ ~~corresponding to a gene or derivative of said gene or a region of said gene facilitating its~~ ~~expression, wherein said gene is specifically expressed in generative cells and sperm cells of a~~ ~~plant but wherein said gene does not encode a histone protein,~~ wherein said nucleotide sequence encodes an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, and SEQ ID NO:8, ~~and an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to any one of~~ SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6 or SEQ ID NO:8.

5. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule ~~according to claim 4~~ comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:5, and SEQ ID NO:7, ~~a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% identity to any one of SEQ ID NO:3,~~ ~~SEQ ID NO:5 or SEQ ID NO:7, and a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridizing to any one of~~ SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:5 or SEQ ID NO:7 ~~under low stringency conditions at 42°C.~~

6-20. (Currently canceled)

21. (Currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 4 or claim 5 ~~wherein the plant is a lily or a plant related to lily~~ said nucleic acid molecule is specifically expressed in generative cells and sperm cells of a lily plant.